1614

ALABAMA BAPTIST HISTORICAL SOCIETY

MINUTES

— OF THE —

SIXTEENTH ANNUAL SESSION

— OF THE —

CULLMAN BAPTIST ASSOCIATION

— HELD WITH —

PLEASANT GROVE CHURCH,

October 20, 21 and 22.

Rev. L. MULLENS, Moderator, Cullman, Ala.
B. E. JACKSON, Clerk and Treasurer, Hanceville, Ala.

Cullmam Printing Company,

J. D. SEARCY. Manager.

Northwest of Court House in Cullman, Ala.

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MINUTES.

The Cullman Association met October 20th, 1898, with Pleasant Grove church, Cullman county. Introductry sermon was preached at 11 o'clock by Eld. L. Mullens from Mathew 16th chapter and 18–19 verses.

Adjourned 1 hour for dinner.

1 o'clock the Association was called to order by the moderator; prayer by A. H. Speakman.

Appointed C. A. Owen and B. E. Jackson reading clerks.

Called for letters from the churches. Read letters and enrolled delegates.

Ebenezer—J. G. Tankersley and W. S. Banks.

Good Hope—C. A. Owens, W. E. Grimmet and I. S. Allbritten.

Hopewell—L. Mullens, J. D. Small and B. E. Jackson.

Pleasant Grove—J. M. Bottoms, W. T. King, Madison Taylor and G. Sanders.

Flint Creek—Wm. Shikle and I. J. Drake.

Logan—W. J. Gay, A. B. Speakman and M. T. McCoy.

Duck River—R. A. Davis, J. S. Brown and J. J. Martin.

Harmony—W. J. Hudson, J. H. Williams and J. T. McAffee.

Bethlehem, West—L. Smith, A. Teder and W. B. Smith.

Beach Grove—J. N. Hardman and F. O. Edwards.

West Cullman—W. J. Horton and J. M. Brown.

Emmeus—W. J. Petty, C. C. Cochran and John Suell.

Pilgrim's Rest—Letter: no delegates.

Cold Springs—J. N. Hardon and J. B. Willoby.

Ryan's Creek—J. H. Harbison, S. J. Calvert and J. C. Calvert.

Fairview—Harry Edwards.

Sardis—J. Grubbs, J. E. Hancock and J. M. Leverett.

Bethany—T. A. Martin and J. H. Freemon.
Center Hill—W. T. Lee and A. C. Giles.
Mt. Hope—J. G. Land and J. C. Miller.
Missionary Grove—D. S. Johnson.
El. Bethel—N. C. Osborn.
Enon—F. W. Crusel and J. W. F. Oden.
Bangor—D. L. Duncan and Tom Rodgers.
Concord—G. W. Screws.
New Hope—J. M. Lee.
New Harmony—Letter: no delegates.
Simcoe—J. D. Lovelady, G. P. Mitchell and J. D. Hillman.
East Cullman—P. M. Musgrove, Miss C. Gurley.
Bethlehem, East—A. P. Bland and J. R. Kannaly.

Called for petitionary letters and received one from Center Grove; read and delegates seated to-wit: E. B. Loyd and Wm. Oden.

Proceeded to elect officers which resulted as follows: Eld. L. Mullens; Moderator, J. D. Small, Clerk, and B. E. Jackson, Treasurer. Appointed Devotional Committee—J. M. Bottoms chairman, Wm. J. Hudson, J. S. Brown and Deacons of Pleasant Grove church.

The regular order of business was suspended and passed to the 8th item. Called for correspondence—Received from Warrior River, Eld. S. O. Howard; from Mussle Shoals, Eld. W. T. Cobbs and J. C. Orr; from Clear Creek, Eld. Thomas Burrell; from Sulphur Spring, R. W. Grubbs and J. W. Sandlin, State at large.

Returned correspondents—To Warrior River, H. W. Little, L. Mullens and J. M. Brown; to Mussle Shoals, C. A. Owens, H. W. Little, J. H. Harbison and S. J. Calvert; to Sulphur Spring, C. A. Owen, Amon Teder, J. H. Freeman and N. C. Osborn; to Marshall, H. W. Little and J. J. Martin; to Clear Creek, J. H. Freeman, W. T. McCoy, A. J. Swofford, J. M. Brown and A. H. Speakman.

Resolved, That any member of this Association being present at the meeting of any association with whom we correspond be authorized to act as correspondent.

The hour of meeting was fixed at 9 o'clock a. m., and adjourn at 3:30 p. m. Prayer by C. A. Owens. Adjourned to 9 o'clock Friday morning.

FRIDAY, 9 O'CLOCK A. M.

Association called to order by Moderator; prayer by W. T.

Cobbs. Appointed the following committees:

Deceased Ministers—J. S. Brown, C. C. Cochran and J. N. Hardman.—Documents: J. M. Leverett, W. B. Smith and Wm. Shikle.—Queries: B. E. Jackson, A. B. Speakman and D. S. Johnson.—State of Religion: J. M. Brown, G. W. Screws and J. H. Freeman.—Bible and Colportage Work: J. M. Bottoms, C. A. Owen and R. C. Ledbetter.—Finance: W. T. Lee, A. B. Speakman and B. E. Jackson.—Orphan's Home—H. W. Little, C. A. Owens and D. L. Duncan.

Appointed committees to report next session:—Temperance: Louis Owen, J. G. Land and J. E. Hancock.—Ministerial Education: C. A. Owen, J. S. Moon and W. J. Horton.—Sunday School: H. W. Little, A. B. Speakman and J. G. Tankersly.—Missions: B. E. Jackson, H. W. Little and J. M. Brown.

Adjourned to 1 o'clock p. m. J. W. Sandlin preached at 11 o'clock from Acts, 1st chapter, 8th verse.

Association called to order 1 o'clock p. m. Prayer by J. C. Orr. Report on Bible and Colportage—Read, discussed and adopted. Elected Bro. H. W. Little colporter. Report on missions read and adopted. Report on Sunday Schools read and tabled until Sunday, 9 o'clock a. m. Report on Education read and adopted. Prayer by Bro. S. O. Howard. Adjourned to 9 o'clock Saturday morning.

SATURDAY, 9 O'CLOCK A. M.

Association called to order by moderator: prayer by P. M. Musgrove.

Report on Queries read and adopted. Report on Documents read and adopted. Report on Deceased Ministers read and adopted. Report on Finance read and adopted. Report on State of Religion read and adopted. Report on Orphan's Home read and adopted. Elected Executive Committee for ensuing year—J. K. P. Byram, chairman, H. A. Henderson, J. M. Leverett, W. J. Horton, and R. J. Fuller.

Adjourned to 1 o'clock. Missionary sermon was preached by J. W. Sandlin, Evangalist, from Mat. 1 and 8, at 11 o'clock.

1 o'clock p. m. Association called to order by moderator: prayer by Thomas Bussell. Appointed J. H. Harbison to preach the introductory next session, pastor of New Hope church, aternate. Appointed C. A. Owen to preach missionary sermon next session, H. W. Little alternate. Appointed Committee on Ministerial Institute Work, said institute to be held some time during the next year—Committee: C. A. Owen, chairman, H. W. Little, L. Mullens, J. M. Bottoms, J. Harbison and W. H.

Guthery. Appointed Quarterly Meetings:

First at Ebenezer, Friday before the 5th Sunday in January, 1899; introductory sermon by H. W. Little.

Second at Sardis, Friday before the 5th Sunday in April, 1899; introductory sermon by J. A. Basham.

Third at Enon, Friday before the 5th Sunday in July, 1899; introductory sermon by John Weaver.

Pators and deacons of churches where these Quarterly Meetings are to be held are requested to publish sixty days before, the questions to be discussed.

Appointed Delegates to State Convention—P. M. Musgrove, C. A. Owens, L. Mullens, H. W. Little, J. M. Bottoms, H. D. Rainwater. Elected W. H. Guthery delegate to the Southern Baptist Convention, I. Windsor, alternate.

Roll of delegates called and corrected.

Ordered that the clerk receive $5.00, and the remainder of the minute fund be used for printing and distributing minutes. Bro. J. D. Small refused to do the work and B. E. Jackson was elected clerk in his place. By motion paid J. D. Small $5.00 for work done.

Benediction by P. M. Musgrove. Adjourned to 9 o'clock Sunday morning.

SUNDAY, 9 O'CLOCK.

Association called to order by moderator; prayer by H. W. Little. Orderded that articles of faith and constitution be printed in minutes. Ordered that time and place of Association with whom we correspond be printed in minutes. Report on Sunday School taken from table, re-read, discussed and adopted.

Resolved, that we tender our heart felt thanks to Pleasant Grove church and community for their kind hospitality during our stay among them.

Ordered that Executive Committee take some steps to aid the colporter in his work and the organizatien of a Sunday School convention. Report of treasurer read and adopted. Adjourned for preaching: 11 o'clock sermon by Eld. S. O. Howard: Subject Fruit bearing: after which a collection was taken for colportage work.

Adjourned Sine Die. ELD. L. MULLENS, Moderator.

B. E. JACKSON, Clerk.

REPORT OF COMMITTEES.

Report on Queries.

We, your Committee on Queries, report we find two queries sent to our body. 1st. What steps should a church take when she has received a member under their watch-care that has been excluded, when the sister church that excluded him refuse to hear his acknowlegement, verbal or written. 2nd. Where a brother has been excluded for defraud and has come under the watch-care of another church; after reading his acknowledgements the church that excluded him refuse to grant him letter. What should the church do that has the brother under their care? We answer that both covering very near the same grounds; the facts in neither being before your committee, the church act according to their best wisdom and directs for the glory of God. Respectfully,

B. E. Jackson, Chairman.

Report on Documents.

There being two churches calling for the Association, and that one of them called for it last year, therefore we think New Hope should have the Association next session.

Respectfully, J. M. Leverett, Chairman.

Report on Deceased Ministers.

We, your Committee, report that there has been no deaths of our ministers during the last year. But we regret to report the death of our much beloved Brother and Deacon C. J. Brown. He was too well known in this body for us to commment upon his life at this time. We recommend that this body make mention of his useful and faithful life as a christian in our minutes. Respectfully, J. S. Brown, Chairman.

Report on Orphans Home.

We, your Committee, report this is a new thing to us and we feel proud that the people of this country and this Association are becoming awakened to a sense of duty and obligation to so great and good a cause. We fondly hope that in the future every church will send to the Association a liberal contribution for the support of the same. Respectfully,

H. W. Little, Chairman.

Report on Bible and Colportage.

We, your Committee, report we have no such work in our bounds, yet we think it important. Therefore, we suggest the appointment of a suitable man to that work co-oporating with the State in the same, visiting and preaching in destitute churches and neighborhoods dostributing Bibles and Baptist literature. Respectfully,

J. M. Bottoms, Chairman.

Report on State of Religion.

We find from the letters that the state of religion is reasonably good. We have been blest by the Lord. We find that many of our churches have no Sunday School or prayer meeting. We appeal to the churches to strive to get more interest in Sunday Schools and prayer meetings, and suggest that we as Baptists should not cavil over hurtful things, and cultivate unity and brotherly love and live nearer our God in the future than in the past.

Respectfully, J. M. Brown, Chairman.

Report on Ministerial Education.

We, your Committee, report the most important fact to be considere in education is that every thing we learn forms a part of our knowledge, and that a part of the great command of our Savior was go teach all nations. Ignorance, superstition, prejudice, sellishness and sin cannot reign where religion and scientific education reigns. Every profession except

the ministry requires its agents to acquire a certain degree of efficiency before they enter the field. Why not the minister who has to deal with the most sublime subject known to man be most proficient in his preparation. We must tolerate in practice "God do all and man do nothing," or educate our ministery. The idea of educating so thoroughly prevades our country that the preacher must educate to keep pace with his hearers. Paul said to Timothy "study to show thyself approved." We suggest that each minister of this Association attend some good school, Danville Institute, Howard College. May the Lord bless us and send earnest and proficient laborers into the vineyard. Respectfully.

I. S. ALLBRITTEN, Chairman.

REPORT ON MISSIONS.

We, your Committee, report our Savior said, "Go ye, therefore, and teach all nations." This is an individual command to the followers of Christ; therefore, it is each one's duty to go and that into all the world. If you are a child of God your work is not done so long as you live and there is one soul to save. This duty is not confined to our home church or country, but is measured only by the world's need of salvation. If we cannot go actually we can go by giving of our means to those whom God has called to carry the good news at home and abroad. However, it is a sad fact that only 12,000 Baptists in Alabama are assisting in this work, while 107,000 are by their actions idly saying I have nothing I can do. Brethren, let us obey the word of the Lord and take the world for Christ. Respectfully.

J. S. BROWN, Chairman.

REPORT ON SUNDAY SCHOOLS.

We, your Committee, report very well organized and well conducted Sunday School is a great agency for good in any church and community; an assemblage of christian workers possessed of intense deslre to know more of God's word and also to be instrumental in bringing others to the blessed Christ. It is of prime importance that christians grow in grace and in the knowledge of Jesus. We regret that the Sunday School interest is on the decrease within our bounds. We find from the letters that very few of us have an ever green school. We would earnestly advise that Sunday School interest be stressed by all our pastors and such effort should not cease until there is a flourishing school in every church. We believe that a Sunday School convention may be made a great means of fostering the interest of Sunday Schools and arousing greater enthusiasm in the work. We recommend that we organize a convention to be known as the Sunday School Convention of the Cullman Association at some time during the next year. Respectfully,

B. E. JACKSON, Chairman.

REPORT OF EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

We, your Committee report that we have held a meeting since the Association adjourned. We recommend that each church in the Association contribute as much as 5 cents per member for colportage work. We also recommend that each church appoint a Finance Committee to collect the amount and send to H. A. Henderson, Treasurer, postoffice Johnson, Cullman county, Alabama. Please send contribution by December 17th. We recommend the organization of a Sunday School Convention to advance the Sunday School work. We will settle the time and place at our next meeting of the convention; we meet at Cullman December 17th. Respectfully,

J. K. P. BYRAM, Chairman.

REPORT ON FINANCE.

We, your Committee report:

Received for Minutes	$29.30
Received for Indefinite Missions	15.57
Received for State Missions	17.40
Received for Home Missions	2.60

Received for Foreign Missions	7.30
Received for Orphans Home	2.70
Received for Indigent Ministers	.25
Total	$75.12

Respectfully Submitted. W. T. Lee, Chairman.

REPORT OF TREASURER.

Received of Finance Committee.

For Minutes	$20.30
For State Missions	17.40
For Home Missions	2.60
For Foreign Missions	7.30
For Indefinite Missions	15.57
For Orphans Home	2.70
For Indigent Ministers	.25
Public Collection for Missions	8.34
Public Collection for Colporter	4.90
Total	$88.36

Paid out the following amounts:

To J. W. Sandlin, Evangalist, State Missions	$41.31
" " " Home Missions	2.60
" " " Foreign Missions	7.30
" " " Orphans Home	2.70
" J. D. Small	5.00
" H. W. Little, Colporter.	4.90
Total	$63.81
Balance on hand	$24.55.

Respectfully. B. E. Jackson, Treasurer.

LIST OF ORDAINED MINISTERS.

A. Adams, Hanceville.	R. M. Presley, Glade.	I. Windsor, Hanceville.
J. A. Basham, Glade.	I. J. Helmes, Hanceville	C. A. Owen, Glade.
T. E. Hays, Hanceville.	A. Mewborn, Cullman.	W. M. Smith, Bremen.
L. Mullens, Cullman,	G. W. Bragg, Trimble.	J. H. Dunlap, Cullman.
W. H. Guthrie, Logan.	P. M. Musgrove Cullman.	J. M. Bottoms, Logan.
C. B. Wilhite, Falkville.	C. I. Holliway, Logan.	G. L. Brindly, Simcoe.
H. D. Rainwater, Vinemont.	J. H. Harbison, Crane Hill.	R. C. Ledbetter, Walter.
W. H. McSwain, Cullman.	G. W. Chandler, Johnson.	J. A. Perkins, Fall Creek.
P. R. Tenerson, Holly Pond.	H. W. Little, Tillery.	G. F. Moon, Bremen.

LIST OF LICENTIATES.

S. L. Butler, Cullman.	P. M. Bland, Glade.	J. H. Freeman, Crane Hill.
J. M. Young, Bremen.	Harry Edwards, Hanceville.	J. T. Brown, Walter.
W. J. Woods, Cullman.	N. D. Mayo, Walter.	G. W. Noles, Summit.
J. W. Barnett, Walter.		D. H. Burnum, Battle Ground.

MEETINGS OF ASSOCIATIONS.

Cullman—New Hope, Thursday before the 4th. Sunday in October 1899, Cullman county.

Muscle Shoals—Thursday before 1st Sunday in Oct., 1899, near Moulton.

Sulphur Spring—Friday before 2nd Sunday in Oct., 1899, with Mt. Olive church, Blount county.

Marshal—Friday before the 2nd Sunday in Oct., 1899, near Albertville, Marshal county.

Warrior River—Friday before 3rd Sunday in Oct., 1899, with Macidonia church, Blount county.

Clear Creek—Friday before 1st Sunday in October, 1899.

MINUTES OF DISTRICT MEETNGS.

The questions and answers given at the District meeting at Missionary Grove the 5th Sunday in May were as follows:

1st. Query—When was Christ's church set up on the earth?

Answer—When Christ was on the earth: but was fully equiped and set to work on the day of Penticost.

2nd. Query—What does it take to constitute the true church?

Answered—That it takes regenerated baptised believers congregated together to worship God.

3rd. Query—What is the best plan to doctrinate the church to better unite them?

Answer—For each of us to study the New Testiment and ask God for more wisdom and doctrial preaching by the pastors.

4th. Query—Does the Bible sustain the idea that a person once saved in regeneration is forever saved regardless of how they may hereafter live?

Answer—That it does.

Queries answered at meeting held with New Hope church the 5th Sunday in July:

1st. Query—Is it right to wash feet in church capasity?

Answer—It is right.

2nd. Query—Has a Baptist church the right to receive members from sister churches when their pastor is not recognized by their Association?

Answer—Yes, if the members do not indorse the heresy of their pastor.

DECLARATION OF FAITH.

I. OF THE SCRIPTURES.

We believe that the Holy Bible was written by men divinely inspired and is a perfect treasure of Heavenly instruction: that it has God for its author, salvation for its end, and truth without any mixture of error for its matter: that it reveals the principles by which God will judge us; and therefore, is and shall remain to the end of the world, the true center of Christian union, and the supreme standard by which all human conduct, creeds and opinions should be tried.

II. OF THE TRUE GOD.

We believe there is one, and only one living and true God, an infinite intelligent Spirit, whose name is JEHOVAH, the Maker and Supreme Ruler of Heaven and Earth; inexpressibly glorious in holiness, and worthy of all possible honor, confidence and love. That in the unity of the God-head, there are three persons, the Father, the Son and the Holy Ghost; equal in every Divine perfection, and executing distinct but harmonious offices in the great work of redemption.

III. OF THE FALL OF MAN.

We believe that man was created in holiness, under the law of his Maker, but by voluntary transgression fell from that holy and happy state; in consequence of which all mankind are now sinners, not by constraint, but choice; being by nature utterly void of that holiness required by the law of God, positively inclined to evil, and, therefore, under just condemnation to eternal ruin, without defense or excuse.

IV. OF THE WAY OF SALVATION.

We believe that the salvation of sinners is wholly of grace, through the mediatorial offices of the Son of God, who by the appointment of the Father, freely took upon him our nature, yet without sin; honored the divine law by his personal obedience, and by his death made a full atonement for our sins; that having risen from the dead, He is now enthroned in Heaven; uniting in his wonderful person the tenderest sympathies with Divine perfections, he is every way qualified to be a suitable, a compassionate, and an all-sufficient Saviour.

V. OF JUSTIFICATION.

We believe that the great Gospel blessing which Christ secures to such as believe in Him is Justification; that Justification includes the pardon of sin and the promise of eternal life on the principles of righteousness; that it is bestowed, not in consideration of any works of righteousness which we have done, but solely through faith in the Redeemers blood; by virtue of which faith his perfect righteousness is freely imputed to us of God—that it brings us into a state of most blessed peace and favor with God, and secures every other blessing needful for time and eternity.

VI. OF THE FREENESS OF SALVATION.

We believe that the blessings of salvation are made free to all by the Gospel; that it is the immediate duty of all to accept them by a cordial, penitent and obedient faith; and that nothing prevents the salvation of the greatest sinner on earth, but his own inherent depravity and voluntary rejection of the gospel; which rejection involves him in an aggravated condemnation.

VII. OF GRACE IN REGENERATION.

We believe that in order to be saved sinners must be regenerated, or born again; that regeneration consists in giving a holy disposition to the mind; that it is effected in a manner above our comprehension by the power of the Holy Spirit, in connection with Divine truth, so as to secure our voluntary obedience to the gospel; and that its proper evidence appears in the holy fruits of repentance, and faith and newness of life.

VIII. OF REPENTANCE AND FAITH.

We believe that Repentance and Faith are sacred duties, and also inseparable graces, wrought in our soul by the regenerating spirit of God; whereby being deeply convinced of our guilt, danger and helplessness, and of the way of salvation by Christ, we turn to God with unfeigned contrition, confession and supplication for mercy; at the same time heartily receiving the Lord Jesus Christ as our Prophet, Priest and King, and relying on him alone as the only and all-sufficient Savour.

IX. OF GOD'S PURPOSE OF GRACE.

We believe that Election is the eternal purpose of God, according to which he graciously regenerates, sanctifies and saves sinners; that being perfectly consistent with the free agency of man, it comprehends all the means in connection with the end; that it is a most glorious display of of God's sovereign goodness, being infinitly free, wise, holy and unchangeable; that it utterly excludes boasting, and promotes humility, love, prayer, praise, trust in God, and active imitation of his free mercy; that it encourages the use of means in the highest degree; that it may be ascertained by its effect in all who truly believed the gospel; and that it is the foundation of Christian assurance; and that to ascertain it with regard to ourselves demands and deserves the utmost diligence.

X. OF SANCTIFICATION.

We believe that Sanctification is the process by which, according to the will of God, we are made partakers of his holiness; that it is a progressive work; that it is begun in regeneration; and that it is carried on in the hearts of believers by the presence and power of the Holy Spirit, the Sealer and Comforter, in the continual use of the appointed means—especially the word of God, self-examination, self-denial, watchfulness and prayer.

XI. OF THE PERSEVERANCE OF SAINTS.

We believe that such only are real believers as endure unto the end; that their perservering attachment to Christ is the grand mark which distinguishes them from superficial professors; that a special Providence watches over their welfare; and they are kept by the power of God through faith unto salvation.

XII. OF THE HARMONY OF THE LAW AND THE GOSPEL.

We believe the law of God is the eternal and unchangeable rule of his moral government; that it is holy, just and good; and that the inability which the Scriptures ascribe to fallen men to fulfil its precepts, arises entirely from the love of sin; to deliver them from which, and to restore them through a Mediator to unfeigned obedience to the holy Law is one great end of the Gospel, and of the means of grace connected with the establishment of the visible church.

XIII. OF A GOSPEL CHURCH.

We believe that a visible Church of Christ is a congregation of baptised believers associated by covenant in the faith and fellowship of the Gospel; observing the ordinances of Christ; governed by his laws; and exercising the gifts, and rights, privileges invested in them by his word; that its only scriptural officies are Bishops, or Pastors and Deacons, whose qualifications, claims and duties are defined in the Epistles to Timothy and Titus.

XIV. OF BAPTISM AND THE LORD'S SUPPER.

We believe that Christian Baptism is the immersion in water of a believer, into the name of the Father, and Son, and Holy Ghost; to show forth in a solemn and beautiful emblem, our faith in the crucified, buried and risen Saviour, with its effects in our death to sin and resurrection to a new life; that it is pre-requisite to the privileges of a church relation; and to the Lord's Supper, in which the members of the church by the sacred use of bread and wine, are to commemorate together the dying love of Christ, preceded always by solemn self-examination.

XV. OF THE CHRISTIAN SABBATH.

We believe that the first day of the week is the Lord's Day, or Christian Sabbath, and is to be kept sacred to religious purposes, by abstaining from all secular labor and sinful recreations; by the devout observance of all the means of grace, both private and public, and by preparation for that rest that remaineth for the people of God.

XVI. OF CIVIL GOVERNMENT.

We believe that Civil Government is of Divine appointment, for the interests and good order of human society; and that magistrates are to be prayed for, conscientiously honored and obeyed, except only in things opposed to the will of our Lord Jesus Christ, who is the only Lord of the conscience, and the Prince of the Kings of the earth.

XVII. OF THE RIGHTEOUS AND THE WICKED.

We believe that there is a radical and essential difference between the righteous and the wicked; that such only as through faith are justified in the name of the Lord Jesus and sanctified by the spirit of our God, are truly righteous in his esteem; while all such as continue in impenitence and unbelief, are in his sight wicked and under the curse; and this distinction holds among men both in and after death.

XVIII. OF THE WORLD TO COME.

We believe that the end of this world is approaching; that at the last day, Christ will descend from Heaven and raise the dead from the grave to final retribution; that a solemn separation will then take place; that the wicked will be adjudged to endless punishment, and the righteous to endless joy; and that this judgment will fix forever the final state of men in Heaven or Hell, on principles of righteouness.

CONSTITUTION.

ARTICLE 1. This body shall be known as The Cullman Baptist Association, and shall meet annually at such time and place as the Association may appoint.

2. It shall be composed of the Bishops and three messengers from each church in the Association.

3. The objects of this Association are to promote practical piety in our churches to extend the Redeemer's kingdom on earth; to assist young ministers in preparing for the ministry; to provide for the support of worn-out ministers and the families of deceased ministers that need help.

4. Any Baptist church of our faith and order may by a petitionary letter and messengers, become a member of this Association by unanimous vote of the body in session—the Moderator giving the hand of fellowship to the messengers.

5. That each church in this body will furuish its proportionate part of the means for carrying out the objects of this Association, set forth in article 3 of this Constitution.

6. This Association shall at each session appoint a Moderator, Clerk, and Treasurer. The Moderator shall preside over the body and keep order. The Clerk shall keep correct minutes of the business done by the body. The Treasurer shall receive all moneys put into his hands for Associational purposes, pay it out by order of the Association and make annual report of the same.

7. This Association will withdraw fellowship from any church that fails to discipline its members, if guilty, for wicked and disorderly conduct, or any other departure from the faith and practice of the gospel.

8. This Association shall appoint three quarterly meetings between the sessions of the Association. These meetings shall be composed of Bishops and Deacons in this Association and any members the churches may send. The design of these meetings is to promote unity in faith and practice and the acquirement of religious knowledge.

9. This Association shall at each session appoint one of her Bishops to preach an introductory sermon, and another one to preach a missionary sermon at the next session of the body.

10. This Association, through its Executive Board, shall co-operate with the State Mission Board and the Alabama Baptist State Convention in supplying the destitution in our own bounds, or elsewhere in this State.

11. This Association adopts the articles of faith known as the New Hampsnire Confession, found in Crowell's Church Members' Hand Book.

12. The minutes of each session of this Association shall be read, approved and signed by the Moderator and Clerk before the Association adjourns.

13. This constitution may be altered or amended at any session of this Association by an affirmative vote of two thirds of the members present.

STATISTICAL TABLE.

CHURCHES.	PASTORS.	CLERKS.	POST OFFICE.	Membership Last Reported	Increased by Baptism	Increased by Letter	Increased by Restored	Decrease by Letter	Decrease by Exclusion	Decrease by Death	Number of Members	Days of Meeting	Minute Fund	Missions	Orphan's Home	Indigent Ministers
angor		T. T. James	Bangor	30				3			27	2 6	45 5	+ 00		
Bethlehem, East	W. M. Head	J. C. Johnston	Hanceville	60	1	1		1			61	3	1 00	1 30		
Bethlehem, West	H. D. Rainwaters	C. P. Smith	Clarkson	54	3	14			3		51	2	1 24	1 00		
Bethsaida	No Letter	J. M. Adams	Cullman	46							46		50			
Beech Grove	T. E. Hays	W. H. Elliott	Hanceville	68	15			6			77	4	1 05			
Bethany	W. M. Smith	W. E. Freeman	Crane Hill	27			1	6			22	3	75			
Center Hill	H. W. Head	R. A. Giles	Hanceville	34	1	3		4	1		33	4	50	1 00	8 50	
Center Grove	J. A. Perkins	E. D. Loyd	Cullman								19	2	50	50	10	
Concord	J. C. Whatley	J. M. Yeager	Loyd	46	3	6	1		2		54	3	75	25		
Cold Springs	W. M Smith	J. B. Willoby	Bremen	23	1	3			3		24	1	65			
Duck River	I. J. Helmes	W. M. Davis	Walter	43	7	4		3	2	1	47	3	1 00	2 00	1 25	
Ebenezer	L. Mullens	J. F. Walker	Tillery	61	1	1		2	6		55	3	1 00	2 00		
Enon	J. E. Weaver	J. R. Oden	Unity	34	1	2		2			35	4	50	1 25		
Emeus	J. M. Bottoms	Wm. McWhorter	Clarkson	33	3	4		9	3	1	27	3	45	1 25		
El Bethel	C. A. Owen	L. A. Moon	Bremen	53	11	8		1		1	70	4	75			
Flint Creek	J. A. Basham	J. E. Pope	Vinement	62	6	3	2	3			70		75			
First Cullman	J. E. Weaver	C. O. Adkins	Cullman	75		1	1	6		1	70	24	1 65	4 05		
Fairview	I. J. Helmes	J. L. Ashley	Bangor	33		3	1	2			35	2	80			
Good Hope	W. H. Absher	W. A. Taylar	Glade	163	2	11	1	19	2		156	1	2 00			
Hopewell	I. Windsor	J. D. Small	Hanceville	120		4			4	2	123	4	2 00	3 00		
Logan	W. H. Guthrie	M. T. McCoy	Logan	46		4		7		1	42	1	1 16	5 12		
Mt. Hope	J. A. Basham	J. G. Land	Crane Hill	50	4	20	1	1			83	4	50			
Missionery Grove	H. D. Rainwater	W. W. Coggins	Cullman	55	3	1		1	3	1	54	1	1 00	2 50		
New Home	J. E. Ragwell	H. J. Preston	Baileyton	104	12	7	4	15	2	1	109	2	95	40		
New Harmony	J. W. H Kenad	W. W. Noles	Joppa	14				4		2	8		50	1 00		
Pleasant Grove	W. H. Guthrie	W. T. King	Logan	46	14	2			1		61	2	1 00	5 10		
Pilgrim's Rest	S. J. Cox	W. T. Murphy	Walter	31	10	3	1	6			39	2	75	2 25	85	
Ryan's Creek	G. F. Moon	W. F. Tucker	Bremen	128	6	1	2	5	9		123		1 50	35		
Simcoe	I. Windsor	G. C. Glasscock	Simcoe	40				8	2	1	29	1	50	75		
Sardis	J. A. Basham	Jas. Hancock	Trimble	50	2	2			2		52	2	1 00	3 00		
Welcome	No Letter			37							37					
West Cullman	W. H. Absher	J. M. Brown	Cullman	35	3	12		6			44	3	75	2 00		
Harmony	T. J. Kelley	W. J. Hudson	Ruby	24	2	1					27	4	75			25
Mt. Zion	No Letter			27							27					
			Total	1741	114	125	15	120	45	12	1837		2875	4442	270	25

ORDER OF BUSINESS.

1. Devotional Exercises, thirty minutes.
2. Introductory Sermon. Adjourn one hour.
3. Association called to order by Moderator, or Clerk in the the absence of the Moderator. Appoint two reading clerks
4. Call for, read letters and enroll delegates.
5. Call for Petitionary Letters.
6. Election of Officers.
7. Appointment of necessary Committees.
8. Call for Correspondence.
9. Return Correspondence.
10. Call for Reports of Committees.
11. Appointment of time and place of District Meetings.
12. Select place for next Annual Meeting of the Association.
13. Miscellaneous business.
14. Appointment of Standing Committees.
15. Adjourn.

Cullman
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